

Smoke Generator (M56 Coyote)



MISSION

Deny information to the enemy, protect our forces, and dominate the maneuver battle by generating large-area obscuration in the visual-through-infrared regions of the electromagnetic spectrum.

DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Mechanical Smoke Generator (M56) is a large-area smoke generator system that is mounted on the M1113 High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV). The M56 can obscure high-priority stationary targets such as airfields, bridges, and ammunition depots, as well as mobile targets such as convoys and troop movements. The system is modular and uses a gas turbine engine as a power source to disseminate the obscurants. The visual screening module is capable of vaporizing fog oil for up to 90 minutes. Dissemination of graphite is provided for 30 minutes to blind infrared sensors. A program to add obscuration capability in the millimeter wave region has been initiated.

Turbine engine-powered visual screening (fog oil): 0–1.33 gal/min

Infrared screening (graphite): 1–10 lb/min

Millimeter wave screening: to be added in FY05

FOREIGN COUNTERPART

Countries that use former Soviet doctrine emphasize extensive use of obscurants during tactical exercises. Many nations, especially those in the Middle East, are beginning developmental programs in this area.

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

Taiwan.

PROGRAM STATUS

- 4QFY94 Type-classified M56 as standard.
- FY95 Commenced production.
- 1QFY99 First unit equipped at Ft. Bragg.
- 4QFY99 Finished fielding 25% of the Army's required M56 Smoke Generator Systems.

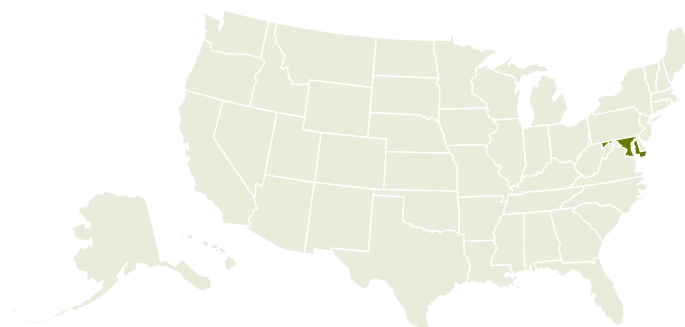
PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- FY01 Award new contract to continue M56 production; Commence retrofitting driver's vision enhancer to fielded systems.
- FY01–04 Conduct millimeter wave obscurant preplanned product improvement development effort, followed by production and integration.

PRIME CONTRACTORS

Production: General Dynamics (Westminster, MD)

FY01–05 Production: To be selected



* See appendix for list of subcontractors

